

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO MS. KARA PIVARSKI

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Kara Pivarski from Springdale High School. Kara is the top winner in the 1998 18th Congressional District High School Art Competition, *An Artistic Discovery*.

Kara's outstanding artwork reflects all the signs of an artist of considerable talent. "Hey, you in white", an oil composition, not only captures the nuances of light and shadow, but the complex nature of human expression. Her attention to detail has the effect of transporting you to the time and place of the painting's subjects.

I always look forward to viewing the artwork created by our local student artists, and I am pleased that Kara's artwork will be displayed in a national exhibition along with students from across the country. Kara, you can be extremely proud of your accomplishment.

Congratulations! Best wishes for future success.

IN SUPPORT OF HOME EDUCATION

HON. ROY BLUNT

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BLUNT. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased again to join along with the Missouri State Senate and the Missouri House of Representatives in support of home education. The Missouri General Assembly has designated the second week of May as Home Education Week. Missouri is looked to as a leader nationwide in the home education movement. That would not be possible without the dedication of our parents who are continually committed to the strong educational principles that have ensured the success of home education. Those principles are the commitments to teaching the fundamentals in reading, writing and arithmetic.

Home education has provided parents the flexibility to tailor education lessons to their child's needs. It also provides an environment where parents can apply the lessons they teach in real-life settings. That may be taking a trip to a botanical garden or national forest to learn about plant science or visiting a local newspaper to learn about a possible career in journalism, photography, printing or advertising.

Home education is successful and history proves it. Since the founding of America many famous Americans have been home educated. That list includes George Washington, Thomas Jefferson, Booker T. Washington, Thomas

Edison, Andrew Carnegie, Franklin D. Roosevelt, Mark Twain, and Sandra Day O'Connor. A most recent example was last May when Rebecca Sealton of Brooklyn, NY won the National Spelling Bee. So when I hear that over 3,500 families in Missouri alone are home educating, I am not surprised.

Without hesitation, I thank each parent who is at home teaching their child the skills they will need to succeed in the competitive world we live in today. It takes countless hours of preparation and teaching time that may seemingly go unnoticed. Your efforts have not gone unnoticed and they did not go unnoticed when Thomas Jefferson wrote the Declaration of Independence and Thomas Edison invented the light bulb. I hope that my colleagues will join me today to let you know that those efforts are appreciated.

IN HONOR OF JOHN MUSICO

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Musico, superintendent of School District 14 in Greenpoint, Brooklyn.

A life-long New York resident, Mr. Musico's distinguished career has truly encompassed all aspects of the New York City School system. A graduate of this system himself, he began his teaching career in 1967 at Public School 59, during which time he also served as UFT chapter chair and as a delegate to the AFT, NCA, and NYSUT conventions representing teachers until 1973.

In 1973 Mr. Musico was selected to be an assistant principal of Early Childhood. He expanded this program, which was the largest of its kind in the district, to include an experimental three-year old program and all-day kindergarten.

Four years later, he became principal of PS 110. During his 15 year term, Mr. Musico initiated many innovative ideas, including restructuring the reading and math programs, establishing a foreign language program, creating a gifted and talented program, and encouraging strong parental involvement.

These accomplishments were recognized in his appointment as deputy superintendent of District 14 in December, 1992. In this position, Mr. Musico was dedicated to restructuring the district's schools and developing educational initiatives to promote the district's goal-oriented philosophy. His advocacy of an extended school day for students, staff development, and his concept of making every middle school teacher a teacher of reading helped to restructure and refocus the district.

In 1996 Mr. Musico was unanimously selected by District 14's Community School

Board to serve as superintendent, a post which, under his leadership, has led the district to achieve notable success. This year he was honored for his work by the mayor and the school's chancellor when the district achieved the largest gain in reading in the city, a success which can be attributed to the combination of an outstanding Community School Board, caring and involved parents, devoted teachers, and a group of the finest supervisors in the city.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise with me in this tribute to Mr. Musico and School District 14. It is due to the combined efforts of this outstanding man and the community he serves, that the children of this district can be assured one of the finest educations available. I am proud to count them among my constituents. Thank you.

PART 1: JOBS WITH JUSTICE
FIRST NATIONAL WORKERS'
RIGHTS BOARD HEARING**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Jobs With Justice coalition, a national organization of community, labor and religious groups that is dedicated to fighting for the rights of working people. When it was established in 1989, Jobs With Justice set out to create a grassroots network of local affiliates that were willing and able to take action on difficult issues such as fair wages, union organizing rights, and the impact of international trade policies on jobs. This dynamic organization has been the driving force behind local and state initiatives for living wage jobs, leading to measures such as the Living Wage Ordinance passed by the City Council of Portland, Oregon.

In addition, Jobs With Justice has started a growing network of Workers Rights Boards (WRB) that lend strategic support to unorganized workers who are striving for justice and fairness on the job. The boards are composed of local labor, religious, political and community leaders who lend their time to learning about the abuses that working people too often suffer at the hands of unscrupulous employers. These Workers Rights Boards are truly an example of grass roots democracy in action.

Jobs With Justice convened its "First National Workers' Rights Board Hearing on Welfare/Workfare Issues" in Chicago in 1997. This hearing featured a number of community, labor and political leaders. I include their testimony for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Part 1 of this statement includes: Brooks Sunkett of the Communications Workers of America

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

(CWA); Josie Mooney of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU); and David Roth of Cleveland Works.

BROOKS SUNKETT, COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

Mr. Chairman, Board Members, and most importantly, social justice advocates.

I am very honored to come before you today and express my deep concern over workfare and welfare privatization upon working Americans and the most needy of our society.

Fortunately for all of you, the time constraints of today's agenda will not allow me to completely cover these issues, in depth as I usually do. But, I will briefly elaborate upon these very real problems.

My opinion of workfare has always been very clear. To me it is little more than institutionalized slavery. I realize that is a very strong statement, but I feel it is nonetheless accurate. I can think of no better statement to drive home the point that workfare will eventually drive down the wages, and force working Americans to do more work for less pay.

Although I am not an economist, one need not have a degree in economics to realize that flooding the workforce with millions of people working for less than a living wage, will ultimately erode the standard wage of thousands of jobs.

Those of us in labor who have fought for decades to improve the working lives and livelihoods of the American worker, face the very real possibility of seeing the improvements made through thousands of struggles and hardships simply melt away.

As sad as this is, it gets worse, because this is not just an organized labor problem. All workers, union and nonunion, will suffer the effects of widespread workfare programs.

Anyone who honestly believes that workfare will not affect him, his job, his wages or even his taxes, is fooling himself. Just ask Hattie Hartgrove, a Nassau County New York employee. Hattie was laid-off from her part-time job as a custodian due to budget cuts. Soon after going on welfare Hattie was assigned to the same job in the same department to work off her benefits at lower pay with no benefits.

Stories like Hattie's are fairly unique because the strong economy currently allows for many would-be workfare participants to move into real jobs. Additionally, many states have been slow to develop much more than pilot workfare programs. They are struggling with the contradiction of providing worker protections for participants, and the potentially enormous cost of such programs when the economy slows down. Although few will admit it, many States already realize that workfare is no panacea.

It is imperative that we not let the effects of our temporarily strong economy, and the still relatively high TANF benefits, lull us into a false sense of security.

If workfare programs expand like conservative congressmen hope, many working Americans will not know what hit them when the economy turns down, and the TANF funding dries up.

For at exactly the time when people will need help the most, that is when the most negative effect of workfare will peak.

Workfare is bad enough, but welfare privatization adds insult to injury. If State governments are allowed to sell out on their responsibility, the needs of millions will go unmet. In Texas alone, where we have fought, and continue to fight against privatization, 2.5 million medicaid recipients will

be negatively affected by privatization. Another 2.1 million food stamp participants, which represents 10% of the food stamps nationwide, will also be affected. Additionally, nearly 17 thousand welfare jobs will be lost as well. All this just to put another 3 billion dollars in the already fat corporate pockets of the privatizing companies.

With a kiss and a promise, Lockheed Martin wants us to believe that they can administer welfare systems better and cheaper than public workers, and still make a profit. This magic would impress even Houdini. I guess we are not to take into account that just four years ago, Lockheed Martin contracted with California to provide a child support computer system for \$99 million; but today the system is still incomplete, and has cost in excess of \$300 million dollars. Or maybe Anderson Consulting thought that no one heard of their child support tracking system in Texas which is four years overdue and exceeds estimated costs by 600 percent.

The fact is, privatizing welfare systems is wrong because it will cost more, and the systems are likely to be less than reliable. Aside from the cost and quality, welfare privatization is morally wrong. It clearly represents a major shift in focus from the needs of the poor to the needs of the wealthy.

We must continue to fight any attempts to deny minimum wages to workfare participants. On the other hand, we need to applaud all states that have shunned workfare programs and decided to put their resources into helping real people, with real needs, get into real jobs, paying real wages and benefits.

We must continue to mobilize, educate and motivate the public around the truths of welfare.

We must no longer allow public misconception to open the door for predator politicians to prey upon the poor and weak.

We can make a difference! We can turn back the devastating impact of workfare if we stand up together and fight together, and demand that public need come before corporate greed.

We can win!

JOSIE MOONEY, SERVICE EMPLOYEES INTERNATIONAL UNION

My name is Josie Mooney. I am Executive Director of SEIU Local 790 in San Francisco. We represent 22,000 members who work for public sector and nonprofit employers in Northern California. Our members work as clerks, food service workers, custodians, librarians, nurses, 911 dispatchers, paraprofessionals, and in many other capacities. Eighty percent of our members are women and people of color.

Many of the workers we represent were on welfare at one point or another in their lives. These workers are a living testament to a reality we all should know and understand: The best way to lift somebody out of poverty in this country is to get them a union job. The wages, the health benefits, the pensions, and the workplace rights and protections that unions give to workers help to ensure a decent standard of living for every working person, and help to ensure that each worker will be treated with dignity and respect.

As workfare workers come into our workplaces, we have several important and interrelated obligations. The first is to make sure—through our collective bargaining agreements and through our laws—that the employer is not able to use workfare workers to displace our members. We cannot end poverty by putting others into poverty and by undercutting standards we in the public sec-

tor have worked many decades to win and retain.

So in California we fought for and won strong language in California's new welfare bill that is aimed at preventing such displacement. At the same time, on the federal and state levels, our members, along with the members of other SEIU locals throughout California and the US, mobilized to fight to make sure that workfare workers would be treated as workers. We said, "If you work, you are entitled to health and safety protections; If you work, you are entitled to be protected from discrimination; If you work, you are entitled to the minimum wage." We won these battles, and in California our new statute also gives workfare workers the right to representation.

Statutory language, of course, is not enough. In our contract we have negotiated representation language, but we will still need to push for full representation rights for workfare workers.

While these struggles are critical, they alone do not fulfill the basic obligation we have as unions, as advocates, as members the communities in which we live. For people to get out of poverty permanently they need, as I said earlier, a real job, a permanent full-time job with benefits, a union job. So we need to fight for more: more training, more jobs—real jobs.

And to get that good job, that real job, new entrants to the workforce need training. In San Francisco we have negotiated a joint labor management committee to examine the possibility of establishing training and apprenticeship programs for workfare workers.

But then where are the jobs? We may need a public job creation initiative in San Francisco, one that would include training along with the assurance of permanent full-time employment. But we also need the resources to provide the necessary support for workers to move into these jobs, such as safe, affordable, quality child care.

Public job creation takes money, however, and cities like San Francisco do not necessarily have the money to make it happen in a big enough way.

Who does? Private enterprise. Corporations are making record profits. Virtually all corporate leaders in California supported the TANF bill signed last year. They will get subsidies when they hire welfare recipients. So, therefore, corporate America has an obligation to create jobs—real jobs, permanent full-time jobs, with good wages and benefits, with training and support.

In San Francisco, we have the Committee on Jobs. I think it's really the Committee on Corporate profits. In the last four years, these companies have downsized by over 35,000 jobs, while their profits have soared. Last year alone, their average profits increased over 30%. Their executive compensation is off the charts. Some of their CEO's make in a day or a week what our members earn in a year.

These companies have pledged to fill 2000 jobs with welfare recipients by the year 2000. Three problems: First, so far only one company has hired anyone—40 welfare to work participants into temporary jobs. The second problem is that these 2000 jobs are not new jobs. And the final problem—the major problem—is that there are at least another 10,000 welfare recipients who still need jobs. I think the private sector has a long way to go to meet their obligation to the community.

As unions, we have the obligation to continue the battle for everyone to have an opportunity to make a good, decent living. We

will do this by continuing our struggles to maintain and raise standards for all workers. We will develop, support, and fight for public and private job creation initiatives. We will continue to work in community coalitions to win living wage ordinances, as our locals have in Los Angeles and around the country.

And we will continue to organize the unorganized, because, as I noted earlier, the most effective anti-poverty program this country has ever had is the labor movement.

DAVID ROTH, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF
CLEVELAND WORKS

Cleveland Works is an agency that was cited by both the AFL-CIO Executive Board and the Clinton Administration as an example of successful preparation of our welfare recipients, allowing them to make successful transitions to real jobs. Its success is based on an extensive set of training and support services provided to clients. These supports are threatened by the new welfare rules which, among other things, would disqualify people in serious training sessions from public support. David Roth, the Executive Director of Cleveland Works, could not attend today, but submitted testimony. I will read excerpts from his lengthy statement.

One of the main reasons new federal, state, and local welfare legislation—welfare reform—is fundamentally flawed is because there is no longer any priority, let alone resources, for job training that can meet both employers' workforce development needs and people's needs to be gainfully employed. At the core of Cleveland Works' philosophy and mission is the fundamental belief that full-time employment with health benefits is the only way for a person and his/her family to achieve a decent standard of living. A comprehensive and unique array of integrated family programs and job related support services help participants leap the many hurdles and barriers which stand in the way of meaningful employment, good education, decent housing and adequate health care. Cleveland Works is an attempt to successfully remove a family's long-term welfare dependency by providing heads of households on public assistance with full-time jobs that provide employer-paid family health benefits and an hourly wage that truly allows families to achieve a good quality of life. Cleveland Works handles only job openings that are full-time, offer employer-paid family health benefits, and come with an average hourly wage high enough to remove a family from the welfare rolls, and much more importantly, from the vicious cycle of poverty. To us, it is a mystery how any organization can effectively move large numbers of welfare recipients into full-time work without on-site family support programs, particularly legal services and family development services. In the end, people cannot permanently escape poverty without attorneys and doctors, counselors and advocates, teachers and Cleveland Works trainers working for them. Developing and maintaining these essential services, is a small investment for the great reward of thousands of families escaping poverty and becoming hard working, productive, taxpaying citizens. While endorsing Head Start programs, we ought to provide the resources to enable child care and education to be year-round and last the entire day, thereby being worker and family friendly. The more we ignore the truth that low income people want to work and only request equal opportunity to become excellent employees, the more we will continue to perpetuate an underclass whose stagnation and deprivation will adversely affect us all. How

can we deceive ourselves into thinking people can somehow magically rise out of poverty when we know they do not have the most potent weapon—skills and abilities which enable them to apply their education and be paid for their labor? How do we justify drastic reductions in job training funding when we know for employers to successfully compete they require a better skilled, educated employee? We can continue fighting illiteracy, drugs, broken homes, hunger, homelessness, domestic violence and mental illness, but still never succeed until we face the stark reality that employment is the core absolute to a family's ability to successfully control and shape a better, brighter future. Low-income people cannot be convinced or simply counseled into becoming more responsible, secure, honest, trustworthy, healthy citizens unless we effectively enable them to seize meaningful opportunities to job training programs. There will be no need to throw billions of dollars towards research and academic surveys if agencies designed to address these problems and provide essential services to the poor are adequately funded and held accountable for their performance. America is unique among advanced industrial nations in its tolerance of unequal access to health care, education and employment on which not the quality of life, but life itself, depends. We are currently wrestling with how to best accomplish welfare reform, yet the ingredients for successful job training are non-existent because of the overwhelming legislative and political emphasis and funding directed at moving people off welfare, rather than effectively training them to meet employers' needs so they can become, and remain, tax paying, law abiding citizens. It is unconscionable that while employers are in such great need of employees, and people are in such great need of employment, there is no coordinated or concentrated effort to solve these problems.

One of the things that is disheartening to us in Cleveland Jobs with Justice and the Cleveland area Workers' Rights Board is that even as the Administration holds Cleveland Works up as an example, it promulgates laws and regulations that under cut the agency's programs.

TRIBUTE TO MR. ERNEST WITHERS

HON. HAROLD E. FORD, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. FORD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ernest C. Withers, Sr. as an activist who occupies a significant place in the annals of the Civil Rights Movement and the history of Memphis, Tennessee.

As a native Memphian, Mr. Withers is respected throughout the community for his contributions toward the establishment and advancement of equality. As a veteran of World War II, he returned to Memphis to become one of the nine African-American men chosen as the first black police officers for the city in 1948. After several years, he left this job to embark full time in a profession that he felt could more effectively bolster social change in Memphis and the nation.

Mr. Ernest Withers is best known for his profession and remarkable career as one of

the nation's premier photo journalists. As a photographer, he photographed and chronicled the history-making people and events of the Civil Rights Movement of the Sixties and focused the attention of the nation on this momentous era of human history. The powerful images that he captured have been widely showcased in national publications including Life, Newsweek, and Time. The dynamic individuals of the time that he visually captured included Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Fannie Lou Hamer, Bayard Rustin, Rosa Parks, and Whitney Young.

Subsequent to the movement, Mr. Withers remained prolific, capturing memorable events and people including President Richard Nixon, Jackie Robinson, Elvis Presley and B. B. King on film. In conjunction with his son, the late State Representative Teddy Withers, Mr. Ernest Withers made several trips to Africa in efforts to further establish Memphis as an international hub for trade. His work as a social documentalist has been recognized and featured by many museums and institutions including the Massachusetts College of Art, the Atlanta High Museum of Art, Vanderbilt University, and the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee. Now in his seventies, Mr. Ernest Withers remains active, working out of his own studio in Memphis where he continues to captivate us with his innovative style and visual perspectives.

For his contributions and commitment to community, Mr. Speaker, I would ask you and my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join with me in honoring this dynamic participant in and recorder of history, Mr. Ernest C. Withers, Sr.

TRIBUTE TO LEADERSHIP TRAINING INSTITUTE

HON. STEVE LARGENT

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. LARGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Leadership Training Institute (LTI) for its goal to call America's youth to their highest personal standard of excellence and their greatest potential for leadership.

To maintain greatness as a nation, we must strive for excellence as individuals. And the standard of excellence is largely set by our nation's leaders—leaders in politics, business, the media, and in our pulpits.

Training programs that encourage youth to achieve their highest possible standard of excellence are setting the necessary foundations for tomorrow's leaders.

The Leadership Training Institute originated in Arkansas. But through its staff, youth participants, and donors, reaches across many states, including my home state of Oklahoma. LTI strives to impart to America's youth the common virtues in our Nation's great leaders and the source and continuity of those virtues over the course of our history. Thomas Jefferson recognized, "God who gave us liberty. Can the liberties of a nation be secure when we have removed a conviction that those liberties are the gift of God?"

The programs and activities of LTI are designed to prepare youth to face the moral

challenges of our day with a foundation that is scientifically reasoned and replete with experiences of America's greatest leaders. This training, which is rich in Biblical perspectives, plays an important role in preparing today's youth to set standards of excellence for themselves and others in their homes, schools, communities, and government.

TAX LIMITATION CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 22, 1998

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Speaker, I rise to oppose H.J. Res. 111, the Tax Limitations Constitutional Amendment that would require a two-thirds majority vote in the House and the Senate to pass any bill increasing internal Federal revenues, except in time of war or military conflict.

It saddens me deeply that we are once again considering a bill so flawed, that similar measures in each of the last 2 years have failed. In 1996, it was 37 votes shy of the required two-thirds vote. In 1997, there were fewer supporters of the bill than in 1996, failing by 49 votes short of the required two-thirds majority. The Senate has not considered the measure.

This constitutional amendment is being introduced in spite of the knowledge that it will fail once again. I believe that the introduction of this bill serves another purpose. Taxes in the United States, compared to the size of the economy, have remained relatively stable for the past 45 years. This stability is remarkable when you consider that we have engaged in one, long-lasting cold war, and at least two major hot wars in this period of time. Compared to most other industrial countries our taxes are lower. Anger over taxes has to be manufactured. I believe that H.J. Res. 111 is highly destructive of our social cohesiveness. Our strength as a nation rests on the foundation of our Constitution and the body of thought that led to that magnificent document.

We are a political society that flows from the firm knowledge that we are governed by laws of our own creation and that these laws are transparent and, on the whole, fair. This basic rule of law depends on the willing acceptance of and cooperation by the people to be part of the body politic. This knowledge of our fundamental governing system is essential to a peaceful, civil society. Instigating anger over taxes, whipping up emotions over the costs of operating our sophisticated system of laws and institutions has a profoundly negative effect, and I can only urge my colleagues and my fellow citizens to consider the steady loss of interest of most Americans in the exercise of government, as evidenced by low voter turnout and lack of systematic public debate over serious issues.

What are the weaknesses in H.J. Res. 111? This constitutional amendment will deprive the Congress of the legislative ability to amend our present Tax Codes with its many loopholes and weaknesses. It will essentially

freeze the current tax system and make it even more difficult to close corporate loopholes. It will also make it more difficult to eliminate tax advantages for the wealthy. This amendment will additionally, prevent us from passing reconciliation bills which reduce future deficits by making balanced spending cuts and raising revenues, unless there are tax cuts of equal size.

Another terrible feature of this bill is that it will deprive us of majority rule in Government. A supermajority of two-thirds of Congress, means that one-third, the minority, controls the outcome. The intellectual battle, and the practice over supermajorities, were waged in the early days of this Republic, under the Articles of Confederation. The hamstringing of the legislature, and of the young Government then convinced the Founders that a simple majority, our present system for the passage of tax bills, was the most workable and the two-thirds majority for passage of revenue bills was abandoned.

I firmly believe that our taxes serve essential purposes. We are a Nation generally admired and envied around the world. Given our technological sophistication, and our heterogeneous society, it is ludicrous to think that we can function without a civil service, a government of civil servants. We are a Nation which needs a more engaged citizenry, not one that sees taxes as burdensome and government as extraneous.

April 15 is our annual time of reckoning. We pay our dues as responsible citizens, and with that, we accept our responsibility to see that the monies are used wisely and effectively. As elected officials, we must exercise the most sensitive and educational roles that we have sought and use these powers and responsibilities to further engage our people in improving our process, not in destroying it. I urge my distinguished colleagues to soundly defeat H.J. Res. 111.

HONORING DON MAYTON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to pay tribute to a man who has dedicated his career to making our nation's automotive industry the best in the world. On April 30, 1998, Mr. Don Mayton of Flint, Michigan will be the guest of honor as family, friends and fellow colleagues join in celebrating his retirement from the General Motors Corporation after 41 years of dedicated service.

Born in Sewickley, Pennsylvania, Don Mayton received a bachelor's degree from General Motors Institute in 1961, and an Administration and Management Degree from Carnegie Mellon University in 1968. He began his professional career with General Motors in 1956 as a student-in-training at the former Fisher Body Division facility in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. While he was there, he held a number of positions including Production Engineer, Supervisor of Metal Assembly and General Supervisor of Maintenance. In 1972, he was transferred to Kalamazoo, Michigan to be-

come Assistant Plant Engineer. Five years later he was promoted to Plant Superintendent.

From 1978 to 1989, Don's loyalty to General Motors was evidenced by the number of moves he and his family made. He moved from Kalamazoo to Mansfield and later Parma, Ohio, eventually returning to Michigan in 1989 to become Plant Manager in Grand Rapids. In 1994, Don was named Manager of the Flint Metal Fabricating Plant, the position he currently holds.

During his long tenure with General Motors, Don has garnered a reputation as a reliable, efficient, and highly effective employee. Furthermore, his co-workers respect and admire him. He has an incredible knowledge of the automotive industry and understands the importance of coalitions and teamwork. His management and leadership will surely be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to have the opportunity to honor my constituent and friend Don Mayton before my colleagues in the House of Representatives. Although he is retiring from active employment, I am sure that his longstanding contributions to our community will continue for years to come. Please join me in wishing Don and his family all the best.

HARLEY-DAVIDSON: CELEBRATING 95 YEARS OF GREAT MOTORCYCLES

HON. GERALD D. KLECZKA

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KLECZKA. Mr. Speaker, Milwaukee is known across the country for its great ball teams, great beer, and great bratwurst. Now, my hometown will attract worldwide notoriety when it will be descended upon by thousands and thousands of hogs—not swine, but Harley-Davidson Motorcycles. This summer Harley-Davidson will celebrate its 95th birthday with an anniversary reunion and rally throughout the streets of downtown Milwaukee.

In the finest Milwaukee tradition, Davidson brothers William, Walter, and Arthur, and William Harley crafted their first litter of "hogs" in a 10-foot by 15-foot wooden shed in 1903 using the best available tools, ingenuity, and a lot of hard work.

Responding to the needs of our national defense, Harley-Davidson became an important government contractor by supporting the military in border skirmishes with Pancho Villa in the early 1900s, providing 20,000 motorcycles in World War I, and supplying American and Allied forces with more than 90,000 motor bikes during World War II.

During the 1950s and 1960s, the only American-made motorcycles transformed from merely a mode of transportation to an American icon. Motorcycle-riding movie stars Marlon Brando in the "Wild Ones," and Peter Fonda in "Easy Rider" epitomized the free-spirited individualism associated with Harley-Davidson motorcycles. Harley's popularity continues to spread to modern day Hollywood celebrities like Tonight Show host Jay Leno. However, an influx of low-priced imports dramatically reduced Harley-Davidson's market share during the late 1960s and 1970s.

Not to be deterred, innovative company officials and dedicated employees worked hard to return the slumping motorcycle producer back to its "king of the road" status. Through improving and streamlining its operations with the help of its dedicated employees, Harley-Davidson returned to public ownership in 1986 with a successful stock offering. Capital raised through public ownership allowed the motorcycle company to diversify into other recreational vehicles.

Thanks to public support, the company's commitment to quality, and employee involvement, Harley-Davidson now owns a huge share of the heavyweight and superheavyweight motor bike market.

The City of Milwaukee is proud to call itself the birthplace of the original hog. On behalf of the people of the 4th Congressional District in Wisconsin, I wish Harley-Davidson Motorcycles a happy 95th birthday with many more to come!

CONGRATULATING THE RECIPIENTS OF "POSITIVE FAMILY IMAGE AWARDS"

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate six of my constituents who, for their service to the community, have been named the recipients of "Positive Family Image Awards" by the Urban League of Hudson County, New Jersey. Mr. Michael Yorker, Mrs. Ella M.G. Lawrence, Mr. George Wilson, Mrs. Henrietta Robinson Booker, Mr. Rhudell Snelling and Mrs. Elizabeth Henry will be honored at the Urban League's Twentieth Annual Equal Opportunity Day Dinner, being held at the Meadowlands Hilton in Secaucus, New Jersey.

My colleagues, let me take a brief moment to tell you about these great people who are so vital to the Urban League and the entire community.

When Mrs. Henrietta Robinson Booker arrived in Jersey City, New Jersey from Statesboro, Georgia, she stayed in the House of Friendliness, the Branch of the YWCA for Colored women, as quarters were segregated back then. From that point on, Mrs. Booker has been the voice of hope, courage and strength for those in dire need. As a prominent member of numerous organizations—the NAACP, J.C. Title I Advisory Board, Council for Companions for Senior Citizens, the Red Cross and the Salvation Army—Mrs. Booker has enriched the lives of countless citizens of Jersey City. For her presence in the community, we are blessed.

Mr. Rhudell Snelling, a graduate of Lincoln High School in Jersey City has contributed to the community through his musical talents. As a member of St. John's Baptist Church, 'Rhudy' was named the director of the Church's choir and became minister of music in 1960. Rhudy has also volunteered his musical abilities as a member of the NAACP and has recorded with the Eastern Choral Guild of Montclair on United Artists Labels. For the

sharing of his talents to benefit others, I thank Mr. Rhudy Snelling.

Elizabeth Henry is a dividend clerk at Sanford C. Bernstein & Co., and will soon be working on the New York Stock Exchange. This career woman serves as a wonderful example for all single mothers as she guides, encourages, and inspires her three boys Leonty Danzie, 17 years of age, Shawn, 14, and Antonio Farthing, Jr., her foster son and nephew. For her loving dedication to her children, I applaud Mrs. Henry.

Mrs. Ella M.G. Lawrence, a graduate of Seton Hall University, is a mother of five children and is retired after teaching English and being a guidance counselor in the Jersey City Public School System for thirty years. As one of the founding members of the organization, Citizens Against Rate Increases, a member of the Board of Trustees for the Model Cities program, and a lifetime member of the NAACP, Mrs. Lawrence has been a force in the community and well deserving of this award.

Mr. George Wilson, a native of Sumter, South Carolina came to Jersey City in search of a better opportunity for employment. In 1968, after attending Jersey City State College and serving in the United States Army for two years, he ended that search as he was sworn in as a Jersey City Policeman. In 1989, he was promoted to the rank of sergeant, and in 1996 was appointed to the position of Under-sheriff of Hudson County, where he serves today. He has served his community as a leader in various ways including being a founding member and past president of the Interdepartmental Minority Police Action Council, the president and a successful coach of the Bergen/Lafayette Little League, and the president of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Parade and Scholarship Committee. He is married to Naomi Motley Wilson and has four children and eight grandchildren.

Finally, I would like to express my gratitude toward Mr. Michael Yorker. Mr. Yorker, a undergraduate and post graduate of Jersey City State College, has served in the Jersey City public schools system in a variety of positions over the last twenty years and is currently the acting principal of Public school 32/SSP. His community involvement includes serving as speaker for many organizational conferences such as Delta Sigma Theta, Block Associations, and various Church and youth groups. Not surprisingly, Mr. Yorker has received numerous awards for all his contributions to the community. He is married to Rene and is the proud father of five children.

These six fine citizens exemplify just what the Urban League of Hudson County is all about. It is an organization committed to the needs of the community, reaching out, being proactive, and taking real initiative to improve economic and social conditions and opportunities for African Americans and other minority groups in Hudson County, New Jersey. Again, my thanks and congratulations to these six awardees and all who are a part of the Urban League of Hudson County.

COMMEND KENNYWOOD AMUSEMENT PARK OF WEST MIFFLIN, PENNSYLVANIA ON ITS CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to extend congratulations to Kennywood Amusement Park on their centennial anniversary. This traditional amusement park is located within my congressional district in West Mifflin, Pennsylvania along the Monongahela River, where it has remained in operation for one hundred years. Originating as a small trolley park in 1898, Kennywood has survived through times of struggle and success to become a fine amusement park.

Andrew Mellon's Monongahela Street Railway Company established this trolley park in 1898. The turn of the century brought competition from several amusement retreats in the Pittsburgh area. The Pittsburgh Railway Company designated its lease to A.S. McSwigan and Frederick W. Henninger. Today, third and fourth generations of these individuals continue to manage the park.

Over the years, as numerous roller coasters and rides were added, the park grew in size and popularity. Many of the older rides, including wooden roller coasters from the 1910's and 1920's are still in operation today, and are becoming endangered species in the amusement park industry. In 1987, Kennywood received national attention when it was designated as a National Historic Landmark.

Kennywood survived through adversity and several hardships. They endured the burden of the Great Depression, financial difficulties during World War II, and competition from million dollar theme parks in the 1960's and 1970's. Despite significant changes in history and cultures, Kennywood remains a traditional amusement park.

After one hundred years in the amusement business, Kennywood continues to prosper. One of the fundamental reasons for its survival is the goal it sets forth. Kennywood applies modern technology to new rides while maintaining the atmosphere of amusement parks of the past.

Having lived in western Pennsylvania all my life, I have personally enjoyed visiting Kennywood many times as a child and have enjoyed sharing the joy of Kennywood with my wife and children also. I want to congratulate Kennywood on their one-hundredth anniversary and commend the management for preserving a place that means so much to many people.

HIGHER EDUCATION AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to extend the authorization of programs under the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. THOMPSON. Mr. Chairman, I rise today in opposition of Rep. Frank Riggs's (R-CA) H.R. 3330, the "Anti-Discrimination in College Admissions Act" of 1998 which will be offered as an amendment during the House consideration of HR 6, The "Higher Education Authorization Act" of 1998. This amendment would prohibit colleges and universities that take race, sex, color ethnicity, or national origin into account in connection with admission(s) from participating in, or receiving funds under any programs authorized by the Higher Act of 1965 (HEA).

This amendment will not only have a devastating impact on postsecondary admissions at both public and private institutions, but also discourage institutions from considering race, even in instances where the purpose is focused on remedying past discrimination. This piece of legislation is far more sweeping than California's Proposition 209 in that HR 3330 aims to eliminate affirmative action in private, as well as public, colleges and universities. It will also constrain an institution's ability to satisfy constitutional and statutory requirements to eliminate discrimination in postsecondary education.

There is clear evidence of what happens when universities are forced to drop their affirmative action programs. When the University of California's board of Regents banned all affirmative action the acceptance rate programs the acceptance rate of African Americans to UCLA Law School fell by 80 percent. After the *Hopwood* decision, admission of African-Americans to the University of Texas School of Law dropped by 88 percent. It is clear that with the passage of this amendment, there will be a re-segregation of colleges and universities.

In Mississippi the percent of the population 25 and older that have a college degree is 14.7 percent. Moreover, Mississippi ranks 47 out of 50 States in relation to the percent of the population having a college degree and 47 out of 50 in comparison to other African Americans in the 50 States.

The Riggs amendment is an unnecessary and dangerous bill that would dismantle the progress that has been achieved in the last 30 years. It will merely serve as a tool to increase the disparities in education and income between men and women, whites and blacks. Affirmative Action in higher education has clearly established significant advances in the area of equal opportunity for ethnic minorities and women in admissions to colleges and universities. I will continue to support and strengthen such programs of equal opportunity. If Higher Education Authorization Act (HR 6) contains the "Anti-Discrimination in College Admissions Act of 1998", I will vote against HR 6.

CAMPAIGN FINANCE REFORM

HON. RON KIND

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KIND. Mr. Speaker, over the past week many individuals, organizations and news-

paper editorial boards have criticized the Bipartisan Campaign Integrity Act, H.R. 2183. They claim that the freshman crafted bill is not real reform. They argue that we must support a more comprehensive bill that has stronger provisions banning soft money, limiting independent expenditures and restricting candidate spending.

While I support comprehensive reform I believe that H.R. 2183 is the only campaign finance reform legislation that can pass the House of Representatives and become law. Our bill was drafted in the spirit of compromise. We recognized that there are many issues that could be put in legislation that will unfairly impact one political party over the other. As a group our Freshman Task Force agreed to eliminate all poison pills that would doom our bill to failure. The success of our effort is reflected in the Speaker's agreement to allow our bill to be the base bill for consideration when the House debates campaign finance reform.

Other reform advocates have argued that we need to challenge previous rulings by the Supreme Court on campaign finance reform. I disagree. Our bill will pass a Supreme Court challenge. Other bills directly contradict Supreme Court rulings. As a Supreme Court Justice recently said to me "our rulings may not always be right, but we are still Supreme." To pass legislation that is clearly unconstitutional will only kill campaign reform.

The Bipartisan Freshman Campaign Integrity Act will pass the House and will pass a constitutional challenge. It is time for the House of Representatives to pass H.R. 2183.

HIGHWAY BILL RESTORES TRUST WITH THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, the highway bill recently passed by the House takes an important step toward addressing our nation's enormous surface transportation needs. In addition to the obvious benefits of much higher revenues for better roads and bridges, this legislation recognizes that the money in the Highway Trust Fund belongs to the American people. Finally, we are returning to the principles that were established by President Dwight D. Eisenhower for the Highway Trust Funds. When Americans pay this tax at the gas pump, they have every right to expect that their money actually will be used for transportation and not diverted to other purposes. The balance held for the Highway Trust Fund has ballooned, and that money has been used for government programs and deficit reduction efforts which are not related to transportation. It is a violation of the trust of the American people when those highway trust funds are used for other purposes.

This Member encourages his colleagues to read the following opinion piece by David R. Kraemer, chairman of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association, which appeared in the Omaha World-Herald on April 27, 1998. It highlights the importance of using

the money from the Highway Trust Fund in the way it was originally intended.

HIGHWAY BILL HELPS EVERYONE

(By David R. Kraemer)

(The writer is 1998 chairman of the American Road and Transportation Builders Association, the nation's largest organization of highway contractors.)

A lot of criticism has been flying around during the past few weeks about the federal highway bill, with the media, special interest groups and fiscal hawks all trying to paint the bill as a pork-laden "budget buster."

The finger-pointing obscures what the highway bill is really for: improving our transportation system. Critics of the highway bill are missing—or choosing to ignore—three critical realities.

One, America's transportation infrastructure is in desperate need of improvement. Two, the highway bill is paid for in advance through fees paid by people who use the system, and the revenues go straight into the Highway Trust Fund expressly for this purpose. Three, improving our highways will save thousands of lives. Plain and simple.

The first point is obvious to anyone who travels the nation's highways. Across the country, hundreds of thousands of miles of roads and thousands of bridges are in poor condition, posing a danger to drivers and undercutting economic growth. According to the U.S. Department of Transportation, 59 percent of the nation's major roads are in poor or mediocre condition, and 31 percent of our bridges are structurally deficient or functionally obsolete.

The Department of Transportation also says we must spend \$46.1 billion annually just to maintain our highways and bridges, let alone make improvements or upgrades. Clearly, funding road repair and improvement should be a top priority for the federal government.

Fortunately, the dollars Congress is committing to the program are available from a reliable source—highway users.

The most misunderstanding issue related to the highway bill is where the money—all \$200 billion plus—is coming from. It comes from all of us who use the roads, through taxes paid at the gas pump and through other road-related assessments. For every gallon of gas purchased, 18.3 cents is deposited into the Highway Trust Fund, which by law is supposed to be used for transportation improvements.

Unfortunately, billions of dollars have been allowed to accumulate in the trust fund and mask deficit spending elsewhere in the federal budget. More than \$25 billion is sitting in the trust fund now, unspent on road and bridge repair.

If people want to criticize Congress about the highway bill, the issue is not how much they want to spend but how little. By keeping dollars in the trust fund that were intended to go toward road and bridge improvement, Congress is short-changing America's highway users.

The fact is, improving highways will save lives. Research shows that for every \$1 billion spent since 1955 on improving the nation's highways, 1,400 traffic deaths and 50,000 injuries have been avoided. The Transportation Department estimates that every year 30 percent of all traffic fatalities—more than 12,000 American deaths—are related in some way to poor road conditions. Adding turning lanes, widening shoulders, constructing lane barriers, improving signage and safety markings and repairing dangerous

bridges all are important safety upgrades proven to save lives.

When a bridge collapses and lives are lost, the story makes the evening news and a hue and cry is raised about how to prevent it from happening again. The answer lives in Washington and in the thousands of repair and improvement projects authorized in the federal highway bill that are now being so roundly criticized. Unfortunately, all the political squabbling diverts attention from these real issues.

So who benefits from the highway bill? Everyone. Communities grow, commercial and private transportation becomes easier and more efficient, and thousands of new jobs are created. Moreover, improving our transportation system will save billions of dollars from being lost each year in wasted productivity, vehicle maintenance, insurance fees and, tragically, health care expenses to care for people injured on our highways.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, April 23, a personal matter resulted in my missing two roll call votes. These were #107 and #108. Had I been present I would have cast a yea vote in support of the Conyers amendment, and a no vote in opposition to the Aderholt amendment.

LAW DAY, 1998

HON. JAMES H. MALONEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. MALONEY of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, May 1, 1998 is Law Day in our nation, a day set aside to remind all of us of the importance of the Constitutional rights and civic responsibilities associated with American citizenship. It is a day to reflect on the true meaning of our right to free speech, to worship in the way that best serves our conscience, to select our representatives in government and to even be critical of that government as needed. These and other basic rights are often taken for granted, but one only needs to view the nightly news to appreciate that our cherished rights and freedoms are not enjoyed everywhere. Law Day gives us occasion to celebrate those rights and freedoms.

When President Dwight Eisenhower established Law Day in 1958, he said, "It is fitting that the American people should remember with pride, and vigilantly guard, our great heritage of liberty, justice and equality under law." He further stated, "It is our moral and civic obligation as a free people to preserve and strengthen that great heritage." Law Day provides the forum for that celebration.

On Friday, in communities across this nation, ceremonies will be held in courthouses and town halls. Such will be the case in Superior Court in Meriden, Connecticut, located in our state's 5th Congressional District. That

ceremony, hosted by the Meriden Bar Association, will focus on this year's general theme, "Celebrate Your Freedom." School children, as well as citizens from all walks of life, will be in attendance to hear speakers stress the importance of the freedoms and liberties guaranteed by our Constitution and Bill of Rights, and protected by our laws and courts.

I urge all Americans to pause on this very special day and consider the true significance of the rights and liberties we enjoy every day in this country. Such recognition is important to maintaining those rights. As Alfred H. Knight said in his American Bar Association Silver Gavel Award-winning book, *The Law of Life*, "we are more likely to lose the meaning of our freedoms through ignorance and carelessness than through intentional government evil."

Mr. Speaker, I call on you and each Member of the House of Representatives, to take this day to heart and help lead the effort to bring the importance of our freedoms, and the laws that protect them, to the attention of the American public on not just Friday, May 1st, but every day of the year. On behalf of Connecticut's 5th Congressional District, I want to commend the Meriden Bar Association for their contribution to this cause in the name of Freedom.

TOWN OF MAINE CELEBRATES SESQUICENTENNIAL

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. WALSH. Mr. Speaker, as a newborn nation grew two centuries ago, townships in America sprouted with the promise of freedom and despite great obstacles. Such as the founding experience of the Town of Maine, which this August celebrates its 150th Birthday.

Maine is an area rich in history. The Town is located in Broome County, New York, within the land tract originally known as the "Boston Purchase" made back in 1787. Many of the original settlers in Maine were Revolutionary War soldiers. The Maine Township was officially formed on March 27, 1848.

On behalf of our forefathers and the generations who will follow as well, I would like to thank the entire Maine Sesquicentennial Planning Committee for their important and historic work in putting together this important official recognition of the Town of Maine Sesquicentennial. It is the dedication of these individuals as well as the Nanticoke Valley Historical Society that preserves an accurate record of history for many generations to come.

I am pleased to mark this solemn occasion for all Town of Maine families in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, forever preserving this memorable time.

Congratulations to the citizens of the Town of Maine. All the best to you as you embark on your Sesquicentennial Celebration, which will culminate this summer.

TRIBUTE TO RUSSELL HUSE

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Russell Huse, a native of Los Angeles, California, for his dedicated service to the community, his passion for the environment, and his inspiring courage and physical fortitude. I also would like to extend to Mr. Huse my warmest birthday wishes as he prepares to celebrate his 90th birthday on April 30th.

One could say that Mr. Huse and his family were among my district's original home-headers. Russell was born on April 30, 1908 in Los Angeles. As a young boy, he spent countless summers and holidays at his grandfather's 6,000 acre ranch which encompassed an area that today is known as Westlake Village. Living on the ranch, Russell developed a work ethic, an unconquerable spirit and determination that has remained his trademark to this day.

Russell went on to study fine arts at UCLA and later settled into a career as a Supervisory Technical Writer and Artist at the United States Naval Weapons Center in China Lake, California. But at UCLA, he put his fighting spirit to good use on the football field for three years under Coach Bill Spaulding. Even now, Russell remains one of the team's most avid fans, often traveling hundred of miles to root the Bruins on to victory.

After UCLA, Russell served as a Park Ranger in Yosemite National Park. It was here, in one of our nation's most beautiful spots, that Russell developed his love for nature which has subsequently led him to devote a large portion of his life to conservation. And it was this love of nature that gave birth to Russell's true passion—mountain climbing.

Despite the fact that Russell did not begin climbing until his late 40's, he has some 160 peaks to his credit. He has scaled Chincney in South America, Mont Blanc and the Matterhorn in the Swiss Alps, all after turning 65 years old. While climbing in Switzerland, Russell completed the solo rescue of a climber, stranded on the mountain with a broken leg. This experience, while earning him a Proclamation for heroism from the townspeople at the base of Mont Blanc, led Russell to found the China Lake Mountain Rescue Group. This organization saves peoples lives in California and Mexico, allowing climbers to enjoy nature in comfort and security.

Today, Russell remains actively involved in organizations within his community. He and his wife Edith live in a beautiful hilltop home in Westlake Village, overlooking the land he used to play on as a young boy so many years ago. Again, I wish to extend my warmest wishes to Russell Huse as he celebrates his 90th birthday and I would like to wish him good luck as he steams on toward the century mark.

Mr. Speaker, distinguished colleagues, please join me in honoring Russell Huse for his decades of service to others. Throughout all of his 90 years, he has remained young at heart and he continues to live a life that inspires us all to be our best.

KEY PRINCIPLES OF FREEDOM

HON. NEWT GINGRICH

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I believe that there are two key principles at the root of our freedoms. The first is the right of America's people to know the truth if a crime was committed, and the second is the principle that under the United States Constitution, no one is above the law.

When 19 Democrats voted to deny immunity for four witnesses on illegal campaign contributions, they blocked the people's right to know. Michael Kelly's column explains the dangers facing Democrats if they decide that cover-up is a party principle. I commend this article to my colleagues.

[From the Washington Post, Apr. 29, 1998]

THE CASE AGAINST THE CLINTONS

(By Michael Kelly)

As we head into what is either going to be a summer dog days or the summer when the last dog dies, the party line among those who man President Clinton's high stone wall against impeachment is that there is not any there here. Tellingly, no one seriously makes the public argument that Clinton is not guilty of at least some of the offenses of which he has been accused—say, at least, perjury in the Lewinsky matter.

Instead, the liberals' defense goes like this: Okay, our boy did a few things he maybe shouldn't. But who amongst us is perfect? And, anyway, these things weren't crimes, or they shouldn't be. And, also anyway, the president's persecutors are the real danger to the republic; their partisan, out-of-control witch hunt is far worse than any of the allegations they are investigating. And so on, fortissimo, con allegro, ad infinitum.

There is one truffle of truth buried in all this: Clinton certainly has enemies who seek to ruin his presidency. No fair-minded person can impute fair-mindedness to Richard Mellon Scaife, who has bankrolled years of anti-Clinton scandal-mongering on several fronts, or to Congressman Dan Burton, the chairman of the House Government Reform and Oversight Committee investigation into Clinton's conduct whose mask of magisterial impartiality slipped a wee bit recently when he called the president a "scumbag."

But it is always the case with politicians who are accused of scandalous behavior that at least some of their accusers are motivated by partisan animus. That is the way it is in politics; that is the way it was for Richard Nixon. Partisanship is relevant only when it is corrupting—when the prosecutors are running not a fair investigation but a railroad job. Is that the case here?

First, to the accusation that Starr is, as Hillary Rodham Clinton has said, "scratching for dirt . . . doing everything possible to try to make some accusation against my husband." It is true that Starr repeatedly has expanded his investigation from his original task of probing the Whitewater land deal. But these expansions—into the death of Vincent Foster, travelgate, the Lewinsky matter and other areas—were undertaken at the request of, and with the approval of, Clinton's own attorney general, Janet Reno, who decided in each case that there was enough "serious and credible evidence" of wrongdoing to mandate investigation.

Was Reno right? Did these accusations merit investigation, or do they represent, as the Clinton defense argues, the criminalization of the ordinary business of politics and the ordinary affairs of life?

Here is the essence of the allegations: that a small group of politically connected Arkansans, including the governor of the state and his wife, abused power and privilege to conspire in a series of thefts that ultimately caused the failure of a savings and loan at a cost to taxpayers of \$58 million; that, facing exposure, these political insiders engaged in a long campaign of obstruction of justice, perjury and intimidation of witnesses; that this behavior is part of a pattern of abuse of power and that it extends to other areas: for instance, in the president's sexual exploitation of women who worked for him.

Perhaps these allegations are false. Perhaps the officials of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp. were wrong when they testified that a legal document drafted by Hillary Clinton and Webster Hubbell in 1986 was used "to deceive regulators" about the financing of the Castle Grande real estate development, a project that the federal insurance investigators have called "a sham" intended as a vehicle for the insiders' fraud scheme. Perhaps Mrs. Clinton did not commit perjury when she testified under oath that she did not remember doing any legal work on the Castle Grande matter.

Perhaps there is nothing criminal in the fact that friends, aides and political benefactors of the president worked to funnel \$600,000 in make-work "consulting fees" to Hubbell after he resigned in disgrace from the Justice Department and while he was negotiating a plea bargain with Starr, a bargain which Starr's prosecutors believe he reneged upon. Perhaps the \$600,000 was not hush money to the sole witness who could, perhaps personally implicate Mrs. Clinton for involvement in a fraud and for perjury.

And perhaps the president did not have sex in the workplace with a young female employee and perhaps he did not lie under oath about this, nor encourage others to lie, nor otherwise seek to obstruct justice. And perhaps he did not abuse his position of privilege to make crude sexual advance to a woman seeking employment, and perhaps he or his agents did not encourage this woman and others to lie about this.

Perhaps the truth will exonerate Clinton. But until then, is it really liberalism's position that the truth isn't worth finding out?

CONGRATULATION NEW CASTLE
HIGH SCHOOL MEN'S BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. RON KLING

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KLING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the New Castle High School Men's Basketball team for their victorious 1997-98 season. Under the leadership of Head Coach John Sanandrea, the Red Hurricanes advanced down a record-breaking path to the state championship title game.

This season has been unforgettable for the team itself as well as the Western Pennsylvania Interscholastic Athletic League. Setting four records in the Class AAAA division, the Red Hurricanes are the first team to reach the

30-win plateau finishing with a record of 30-2. They are the first team to win back-to-back WPIAL Class AAAA championships and the second to advance to the PIAA title game. In addition, Coach Sanandrea was named WPIAL coach of the Year.

The 1998 Red Hurricanes team have their mark in the WPIAL record books, as well as the New Castle community. The team's talent and respect for the game inspired the community, renewing a sense of spirit, unity, and pride in New Castle.

It is with great pride and honor that I urge my colleagues to rise and honor the New Castle Red Hurricanes. Their success has made their school, community, and the entire Fourth Congressional District proud.

CONGRATULATING RABBI AND
MRS. DAVID EDELMAN ON DEC-
ADES OF DEDICATION AND
SERVICE TO THE JEWISH COM-
MUNITY

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to have the opportunity to honor two outstanding constituents, Rabbi David Edelman and wife, Lillian Edelman.

Their 48 years of devotion to the Jewish community is an inspiration to us all and reminds us of our responsibilities to serve one another. As leaders in education, community outreach, and religious stewardship, both Rabbi and Mrs. Edelman incorporate in their work the fullness of their Judaic faith so as to enhance the quality of Jewish life in the Greater Springfield area and elsewhere.

At Yeshiva Academy in Longmeadow, MA, Rabbi and Mrs. Edelman have laid the foundation for one of the finest Jewish educational institutions in our nation. Having been involved in the establishment of Yeshiva from its beginnings, the Edelmans continue to be central figures at this thriving Academy that they so dutifully helped create. Both Rabbi and Lillian Edelman have collaborated in sharing administrative duties at Yeshiva while making their own unique contributions as well.

Rabbi Edelman has been active in strengthening the Academy's commitment to community service through his involvement in outreach programs, adult education, and after school activities. Equally notable are Mrs. Edelman's efforts in founding a sisterhood at Yeshiva which became the Parent-Teacher Association and as innovator, designing the concept of the Auction to support the school's fundraising initiatives.

In extending their ministry beyond Yeshiva, Rabbi and Mrs. Edelman have been able to enrich the quality of Jewish life for a host of citizens outside of their immediate community who reside in other areas of Massachusetts and Connecticut. Rabbi Edelman has shared his knowledge of the Judaic tradition with students of Chassidic philosophy at the University of Massachusetts and in classes at the Jewish Nursing Home. As visiting clergy at Baystate Medical Center and spiritual leader at both

Knesser Israel and Beis Medrash Lubavitch, Rabbi has been similarly generous in spreading the teachings of Judaism. Lillian Edelman's activism and memberships include the Hebrew Free Loan Association, the Mizrahi, and the Kesser Israel sisterhood.

Just as they have spread Judaic values within the community, so too have Rabbi and Mrs. Edelman instilled the spirit of this religion in their home. Perhaps the greatest reflection of any couple and surely the Edelmans is their remarkable achievement in raising eight fine children. In their sons and daughters, Rabbi and Mrs. Edelman have laid the roots of their legacy of service and commitment to the Jewish tradition. Together this family manifests through their vocations and good works a deep understanding of Jewish morality and generosity.

Indeed two individuals who have made every facet of their lives work within the foundation of Judaism in a spirit of communal devotion, I am proud to honor Rabbi and Mrs. David Edelman on 48 years of service to the Jewish community.

PALMERTON'S CENTENNIAL

HON. PAUL E. KANJORSKI

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. KANJORSKI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to the residents of the Borough of Palmerton as they celebrate their 100th Anniversary.

The history of Palmerton is a rich one. What is now Palmerton Borough was first settled by Europeans in the 1740's who were attracted to the area by its abundant natural resources—coal, paint ore, iron oxide, and zinc. Indeed, zinc mining was the main industry in the Borough for many years. Although Palmerton did not legally become a Borough until October 14, 1912, Palmerton's unofficial birthday was on July 3, 1898 when, following the formation of the Palmer Land Company by Stephen S. Palmer, the President of the New Jersey Zinc Company, the town plan initiative was signed.

In 1900, the people of Palmerton saw the completion of the sewer system and the introduction of telephone services and electricity to some homes. By 1907, Palmerton was home to more than 2000 people. The Palmerton Post Office, fire company, town park, Delaware Elementary School, Hospital, railroad passenger station, local Boy Scouts of America chapter, and the Neighborhood House all emerged in the surrounding years.

The region continued to grow as 110 bungalow-type houses and another 125 homes were completed in 1913. In 1920, Palmerton was already home to a Red Cross Detachment, two banks, a four-year high school, and several churches. The Stephen S. Palmer Junior-Senior High School was opened in April 1925 for grades 7 through 12. The Palmerton Community Chest was formed and the first automatic telephones in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania were installed.

Although the coal and zinc mines that originally fueled the Borough's growth have long since closed, the 5400 residents of Palmerton

Borough continue to thrive as they move toward the new millennium. Two major initiatives will help prepare the Borough for the 21st Century: the flood-control project at the Aquashicola Creek and the Brownfields initiative at Horsehead Industries' West Plant promoted by State Representative Keith McCall, county and borough officials, the local Chamber of Commerce, and myself.

Since my election to Congress in 1984, I have spent a great deal of time in Palmerton but one visit last year is especially prominent in my mind. The event was a re-dedication of the town swimming pool, which had been renovated after 50 years of use. I have been to many events like this one over my career, but I was struck by the optimism of the crowd. It seemed like the entire town had come out to note how they were committed to looking after the future needs of their community. It brought home to me the community spirit that is at the heart of Palmerton.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud to congratulate Palmerton on its Centennial Anniversary. Knowing that Palmerton's best days are ahead of it, I send my sincere best wishes for continued growth and prosperity.

TRIBUTE TO MS. GRETCHEN SNEEGAS, 1998 MIDWEST REGION YOUTH ADVOCATE OF THE YEAR, FROM INDIANAPOLIS, INDIANA

HON. JULIA CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Ms. CARSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable young woman from Indianapolis, Indiana. I am proud to announce that Ms. Gretchen Sneegas, a sixth grader at New Augusta Middle School, will be honored today (April 30, 1998) as this year's Midwest Regional Youth Advocate of the Year by the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids. Ms. Sneegas is one of six individual youth activists and one teen tobacco-control group to be honored by the CAMPAIGN in 1998.

The Youth Advocates of the Year Awards, now in their third year, were created to encourage tobacco control activism and leadership among the nation's youth.

Ms. Sneegas was nominated by Susan Chitwood, Community Development Director of the Indianapolis division of the American Cancer Society, for her dedication to tobacco control efforts from the state house to the school house. An aggressive advocate for change, Gretchen pushed for a state ban on cigarette vending machines, even going so far as to provide state lawmakers with photographic evidence of how easy it is for kids to buy cigarettes in this way. She has also learned how to reach out to her peers and motivate other young people to get involved in this fight. When Indiana's State Legislature overrode the Governor's veto of a bill that prevented local governments from restricting the sale of tobacco products, she mobilized young people from all across Indiana to stage a protest at the State Capitol.

The Youth Advocates of the Year Awards recognize that kids are not just part of the

problem—they can be a powerful part of the solution.

This award is presented during the same week of Surgeon General David Satcher's timely report on *Tobacco Use Among U.S. Racial/Ethnic Minority Groups*. This report underscores the urgent need for comprehensive legislation to reduce youth smoking. According to this report, smoking rates among minority groups, particularly teens, are on the rise. In Indiana alone, 37.8 percent of High School kids currently smoke cigarettes, and 13.9 percent of High School kids use smokeless tobacco. The Center for Disease Control projects—of these Indiana teenagers who smoke—140,645 kids currently under the age of 18 will die prematurely from tobacco-related disease.

I thank the Campaign for Tobacco-Free Kids for selecting Ms. Sneegas. Smoking is the leading cause of preventable death in the U.S.—I applaud the CAMPAIGN for its dedication to providing opportunities encouraging youth to get involved in tobacco control activities in their communities and at the state and national levels.

I am very pleased to have this opportunity to acknowledge and honor inspiring young individuals like Ms. Sneegas who have worked hard to keep America's kids tobacco-free. They are youth leaders who actively take a stand for and with other kids demanding tobacco-free lives and healthier futures—and they make a difference!

THE NATION'S TRANSPORTATION SYSTEM

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. GORDON. Mr. Speaker, I would like to draw attention to an article that appeared in my home town newspaper, the Daily News Journal, on Sunday April 26, 1998, concerning the future of our nation's transportation system.

Mr. Kevin Backwell, Vice President, AAA Auto Club of the South, which has over 157,000 members in west and central Tennessee, makes a strong case for the need to invest in our country's infrastructure.

This bill is especially important to the future of Middle Tennessee, because of the rapid growth we have experienced over the past decade. As one of the fastest growing regions in the country, this bill invests in the future of Middle Tennessee by looking toward new, innovative transportation systems, such as the Middle Tennessee Commuter Rail.

This bill represents a strong commitment to the economic future and the quality of life of Middle Tennessee.

[From the Daily News Journal]

MAINTAINING HIGHWAYS IMPORTANT FOR NATION

To the editor,

The good news coming out of Washington in recent weeks is that Congress is finally addressing the concerns of America's motorists with the reauthorization of the Intermodal Surface Transportation Efficiency Act

(ISTEA), and is prepared to make significant investments in the nation's transportation infrastructure.

However, it would seem that critics of this legislation have forgotten what it's like to drive on our nation's highways and bridges; to sit in long lines of congested traffic; dodge potholes; or to watch in frustration as the nation's economic backbone crumbles from a failure to properly maintain the system. Due to years of chronic underinvestment, according to federal government reports, one-third of all major roads in the United States are in "poor or mediocre condition" and a fourth of the 570,000 bridges in the country are either "structurally deficient or functionally obsolete."

ISTEA does not propose to pave over America. The great need—and primary goal of both the House and Senate bills—is to repair existing roads and bridges. Outmoded and poorly maintained roads and bridges cost lives and impair personal mobility. They also negatively impact productivity and economic activity. In a booming economy, there is no excuse to allow the continued deterioration of the very transportation system that sustains economic growth!

When a corporation makes capital investments in outmoded plants and equipment, we applaud its actions. Congress is now increasing capital investments in our badly deteriorated transportation infrastructure, and members who supported it are to be commended.

At first glance, the size of the increased investments in transportation funding appear large. We need to remember that they are spread out over the next six years. It is also important to remember that every penny proposed for surface transportation investment comes from revenues collected from motorists through the federal gasoline tax. We pay taxes at the gasoline pump to maintain our roads and bridges. We are asking that those tax dollars be invested as they were intended—not buried away in a trust fund to mask other federal spending practices.

As the conference committee negotiates the final details of the bill to send to the president, we urge our leaders to remain firm in their resolve. Investing in transportation is investing in America's future. It is investing in safety. It is the right priority for the 21st century.

KEVIN W. BAKWELL, APR
Vice President, Public
& Government Relations, AAA Auto
Club South, Tampa,
Fla.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, almost sixty years ago, the most tragic event of the 20th Century began. In its early stages, it was hard to see. But it was there. It was a knock on the door late at night. It was a forced train ride to a far away place. Shamefully and secretly, the Holocaust began. Before it was over, more than six million Jews would give their lives.

Yet the impact of this tragedy did not stop there. As the author and Holocaust survivor Elie Weisel once said, "Not all victims were Jews. But all Jews were victims."

And so while the world lost the Holocaust victims, the Holocaust victims' impact was not lost on the world. If nothing else, this horror awakened the world to the need for a Jewish nation. For too long, Jews were adrift in the world. Without any hope. Without any home.

50 years ago this month that changed. The descendants of Abraham and David once again created a nation called Israel. Against all the odds, the Jewish nation began. And survived. And grew. And conquered. Today, Israel is a thriving nation of almost six million citizens. It remains the only democracy in the Middle East. And it continues to serve as one of America's staunchest allies in the world.

As we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the birth of the modern Israel, we can take great pride in the role America played in helping to create this beacon of hope in the Middle East. And we can draw strength from the courage, conviction, and commitment of this Democratic nation.

Yes, there have been struggles. But the suffering has increased the resolve of these heroic people.

Yes, there have been tragedies. But the cost of freedom has never been cheap, and the Israeli people have always been willing to meet it.

And yes, there have been all kinds of setbacks. But what does not destroy Israel makes it stronger.

After 50 years, the nation of Israel remains. Proud. Prepared. And free. God bless this nation, their people, and their future. And may God preserve their special place in the world and in our hearts.

HONORING THE QUEENS BOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 30, 1998

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the achievement of the Queens Borough Public Library which has grown to become by far and away the busiest library in the entire nation. The following article from the Washington Post describes how the library has continually sought input from a growing immigrant community. The Queens system checks out over 15.3 million books and materials a year, and spends more money per capita on books than any other major urban American library. The Queens Borough Public Library should serve as a model of how one institution can bring together people of various races and ethnicities for the good of an entire community.

A BOROUGHFUL OF BOOKWORMS—MOTIVATED IMMIGRANTS MAKE QUEENS LIBRARY BUSIEST IN U.S.

(By Blaine Harden)

NEW YORK, April 27—Pin-Pin Lin treks twice a week with her two sons and a big shopping bag to a crowded library in the borough of Queens. The Taiwanese immigrant

herds her boys as they plunder books from library shelves and toss them in the bag.

Sitting between her sons at a library table while they riffle through the books, she looks up words in an English-Cantonese dictionary and frets about any "no-good" English words they might read, speak or think.

"I no want to miss anything," explains Lin, who every Thursday morning, when her boys are in school, attends English language class at the Queens library. "If I don't learn about American culture and speak English, I could lose them. If they think I not understand, they not do what I say."

Book-obsessed, worrywart immigrants like Pin-Pin Lin are the driving reason why the Queens Public Library is far and away the busiest in the United States. Most library books in Queens do not go out of date. They wear out from overuse and fall to pieces.

The library circulates the nation's highest number of books, tapes and videos—15.3 million a year.

In the sprawling borough that lies across the East River from Manhattan, library card holders check out more books per capita than users of any big city library system in the country. The 1.95 million residents of Queens use the public library five times more frequently than residents of the District of Columbia, twice as often as residents of Prince George's County and a third more frequently than people in Montgomery County.

The Los Angeles library serves about 1.4 million more people than the Queens library, but last year people in Queens checked out 4 million more books.

"We have complaints all the time from our older clientele, who want quiet and who want space. Well, our libraries aren't quiet and, for the most part, they aren't spacious," says Gary Strong, director of the Queens Public Library, one of three public library networks in the city. There is also a library system in Brooklyn and the New York Public Library serves Manhattan, the Bronx and Staten Island.

"The people who use our library are highly motivated," Strong adds. "They want jobs. They want to learn how to live in America."

Queens has the highest percentage of foreign-born residents of any borough in New York, a city that at the end of the 20th Century is sponging up one of the great waves of immigration in its history. Nearly half the residents of Queens speak a language other than English at home. More than a third were born in a foreign country.

The extraordinary love affair between immigrants and libraries is a century-old story in New York, as it is in other American cities that have been immigrant gateways. The most crowded libraries in New York have always been in neighborhoods with the largest population of recent immigrants.

That love affair continues at the end of the century, but with complications, especially in Queens. The book lovers who elbow each other for space in the library's 62 branches are more than ever before a mixed bunch—racially, linguistically and culturally.

The busiest branch in the nation's busiest library system is in Flushing, which has been inundated in the past decade with Chinese, Korean, Indian, Russian, Colombian and Afghan immigrants. Until a handsome new library building opens this summer, the Flushing branch is crammed into a former furniture store.

Inside, there are not nearly enough little chairs for all the little kids who wiggle and squeal and devour picture book after picture

book. Stacks of blue plastic-coated foam pads are available so kids and parents can sit on the tile floor.

Queues form behind computer terminals that allow immigrants to search home country periodicals using Chinese, Korean and Roman writing systems. "Watch Your Belongings!" signs are in English, Spanish and Chinese.

There are no public bathrooms—space being too precious to waste on nonessentials. But there are librarians who speak Russian, Hindi, Chinese, Korean, Gujarati and Spanish.

"Have you ever wondered where the new South Asian materials are?" asks a sign taped to a pillar in the Flushing branch library. "Well, wonder no more. They're here! You can find materials in: Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Malayalam and Urdu."

"We have gone from a dozen countries to a hundred countries," says Strong. "We are not just waiting for them to come to us after they have solved all their problems, after they have a job and after they have the kids in school. We go after them. We advertise. We do not check their immigration status."

Immigration had already transformed Flushing from a staid middle-class Italian and Jewish community into a polyglot boom town when Ruth Herzburg took over eight years ago as library branch manager. Herzburg quickly discovered that the branch was falling behind the newcomer mix.

Herzburg tentatively put a small collection of Korean-language books out on a shelf five years ago. "Those books walked off the shelves. Before that, we didn't really know the Koreans were here," she said.

As immigrants make the transition from their native language to English, Herzburg says they hunger for basically the same kinds of books—translations of potboiler American fiction like Danielle Steel, self-help books and computer books. Many immigrants to Queens have technical skills, she says, and they demand science, technology and business books.

By spending more money per capita on books and other materials than any other major urban American library system, the Queens Public Library has marshaled its resources to seduce each new group of immigrants and lure them into the branches.

The seduction starts by sending library emissaries to immigrant associations that work with recent arrivals. In the languages of the immigrants, they explain how the library can show them how to get a driver's license, navigate the Internet and learn English. The library runs the largest English-as-a-second-language program in the country and says it could double its enrollment if it had more space and money.

"Starting with survival skills, they get introduced to the library and it is often the beginning of a lifelong habit," said Adriana Acauan Tandler, head of the library's New Americans program and herself an immigrant from Brazil.

Using census data and a demographer and by commissioning polls among Queens residents, the library has been able to spot holes in library usage. The biggest hole in the late 1980s was among Spanish speakers.

The library went after them with an aggressive public relations campaign. It translated applications for library cards into Spanish, purchased spots on Spanish radio and pulled together a Spanish collection of 100,000 items in 10 branches.

"In just three years, we found that Spanish speakers were using the library as much as anybody in the borough. They read everything from Cervantes to 'Superman.' The secret of our success is that we give people what they want, instead of what we think they should have," Acauan Tandler said.

What adults want, above all else, is translations of American bestsellers in their own language. The library tries to buy them quickly and in quantity. At the Flushing branch, the head librarian has about \$125,000 a year to spend as she wishes on "hot" books.

"We don't wait for the central office to send out popular books. We like to go around to all the local bookstores and buy popular books off the shelves. All the books are in foreign languages. We don't even have an English-language bookstore in Flushing," said Herzburg.

Pin-Pin Lin tries to steer her boys, ages 10 and 13, away from Chinese-language books. She prefers they read only in English. To that end, she makes sure they leave the library after each visit with 20 or so English books in the shopping bag.

"I don't care if they read all. Kid is kid. If they don't like books. I bring them back and get more," said Lin.

SENSE OF CONGRESS ON 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF FOUNDING OF MODERN STATE OF ISRAEL

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 1998

Mr. FARR of California. Mr. Speaker, today we celebrate the 50th year of statehood of a

strong and trusted ally, the State of Israel. A young nation with a long and honorable history, Israel has been a symbol of hope and a land of opportunity for millions of Jews throughout the world. Surviving six wars, continuing terrorism, and severe economic boycotts, Israel's 600,000 citizens have shown the world what it means to be committed to one's homeland.

Against all odds, Israel has established a dynamic, vibrant democracy that supports free elections, free press, and freedom of speech. A country of remarkable accomplishments, Israel has moved from a poor third-world country to a thriving state with unlimited economic prospects, Israel has molded fields of sand into successful farms, villages of historic destruction into brilliant cities with prosperous businesses and enterprising kibbutzes, and barren desert lands into lush forests of green. Persecution endured has been turned into prosperity, isolation into idealism and hardship into heroism.

With all its successes, the people of Israel have never forgotten who they are, the roots that intertwine every Israeli with every member of the global Jewish community. Israel has welcomed over 1,000,000 refugees with open arms, providing work and learning opportunities, with the chance to become a vital part of the Israel experience.

The United States' bond with Israel is stronger than ever, a friendship that has flourished and helped strengthen both of our nations. Working together for peace in the Middle East, we all yearn to see a day when children no longer need be afraid of war and terrorism and all families throughout the region feel safe and secure. We can now look forward to a time that this troubled area of the world toils towards tearing down age-old barriers instead of erecting new ones.

The Israeli nation has become an inspiration for people the world over. I salute Israel on this joyous anniversary and pledge my support to its enduring legacy.